

RITA D. WALTERS

City Council
of the
City of Los Angeles
City Hall

DATE OF OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CITY HALL

May 16, 1994

The Honorable Richard Riordan
Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Room 300, City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Rich
Dear Mayor Riordan:

It is my understanding that the Mayor's Office of Economic Development is complying with the Downtown Property Owners Association's (DPOA) request for funds for their clean streets project by allocating \$150,000 to them from the \$3 million remaining in Civil Unrest funds in the Mayor's Office. I strongly oppose any such support for this proposal.

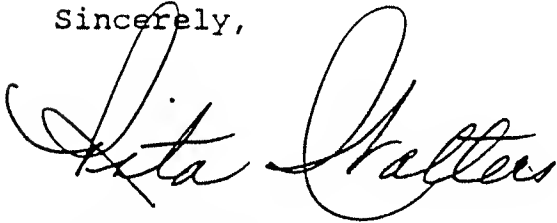
I am vehemently opposed to diverting recovery funds earmarked for assistance to individuals and businesses suffering as a direct result of the Civil Unrest in order to benefit any one or any project not so situated. When the Downtown Property Owners Association came to the City for assistance in the Clean and Safe program, the City complied with the understanding that this was a one time funding request. Secondly, even though the DPOA itself is a non-profit organization, it represents some for profit business entities downtown. Lastly, according to the budget submitted by DPOA, they are requesting a City grant totaling \$150,000 to their match of only \$83,060 (attachment).

Two years have passed since the Civil Unrest and yet many of the concerns and desires expressed by the victims of this disaster have gone unmet. I am disheartened to learn that while vacant lots, burned out buildings, and other relics of the unrest still plague many areas of the City, imposing blight on these communities as a direct impact of the civil unrest, the Mayor's Office of Economic Development still has \$3 million in undistributed monies designated for assistance to the affected areas.

To be sure, there are problems facing downtown businesses and property owners but they existed long before the Civil Unrest of

1992 and unfortunately will probably continue for some time to come. The unallocated Civil Unrest funds remaining in the Mayor's Office should be utilized to benefit those areas directly impacted by the Civil Unrest. Again, I am strongly opposed to this proposal and will in no way support City financing of any kind for this project in light of current revenues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rita Walters". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Rita Walters

cc: All Councilmembers